

# RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2020 FAIRFAX COUNTY STUDENT PEACE AWARDS

## HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 1, 2020*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the 2020 Fairfax County Student Peace Awards.

The Fairfax County Student Peace Awards began with one high school in 2006 and was created to encourage high school aged students to think about peace as both a means and an end, and to recognize young people who work as peacemakers. By 2013, the program was being offered in every public high school in Fairfax County, as well as in three private schools.

Participating high schools choose one Junior or Senior, or one student group active in promoting peace and/or removing the causes of conflict. Examples of outreach include: committing to peace by engaging in activities that strive to end conflict, either locally or globally, seeking to discuss or otherwise resolve potentially controversial issues within the school or community, promoting the understanding of divisive issues and situations to bridge language, ethnic, racial, religious, gender, sexual orientation, or class differences, and working to resolve conflicts among students or members of the community who feel isolated or alienated.

I am pleased to include in the RECORD the following names of the 2020 Student Peace Award recipients:

Manoucher (Manny) Precht, Annandale High School; Samantha (Sage) Quick, Cedar Lane High School; William (Will) LaWalt, Cedar Lane High School; Sophia Lee, Centreville High School; Anand Colaco, Chantilly High School; Kheira Bekkadj, Edison High School; Renee Richey, Fairfax High School; Patrick Cloud, Hayfield Secondary School; Nabaa Abdel Okhowa, Herndon High School.

GirlUp Club—Fariha Tasneem, Evie Garcés-Foley, Patricia Rue, Diana Chavez, Sloane Bailey, Zulma Solis, Katherine Fernandez, Justice High School.

Jena Musmar, King Abdullah Academy; Emily Smith, Lake Braddock Secondary School; Daniel Mousavi, Langley High School; Catherine Soto, Lee High School; Daphne May, Madison High School; Hannah Gyekye, Mount Vernon High School; Zamir Ticknor, Marshall High School; Sarah Gu, McLean High School; Betsabe Pardo, Mountain View High School; Roudah Chaker, Oakton High School; Andrew Keiffer, Quander Road School; Michael McCabe, Robinson Secondary School; Siedeem Ahmed, South County High School; Lindsey Hirschfeld, South Lakes High School; Amaani Mohamed, West Potomac High School; Salwa Zahid, West Springfield High School.

Bulldog Buddies—James Johnson, Carly Liesegang, Rachel Liesegang, Charlotte Tiss, and Maddie Woodward, Westfield High School.

Madam Speaker, the efforts of these young people are the building blocks of a more peaceful and tolerant world. I commend them on their efforts and dedication and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating each award recipient as well as all the student and

student groups who participated in this program. I thank each of them as well as Fairfax County Public School System and sponsor organizations for all they have done for our community.

## AMARI PRESIDENT

## HON. JOE CUNNINGHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 1, 2020*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Amari President.

Amari was only sixteen years young when he passed, but his wisdom was already far beyond his years. Despite being too young to vote, he knew the importance of his civic duty to hold public officials accountable and to be involved in his local community. That involvement brought Amari into my life when he attended one of my very first town halls and left me a question. In my subsequent conversations with Amari, it was clear his leadership and vibrancy were going to take him to big and wonderful places in life.

Anyone who was lucky enough to know Amari knew his dreams were big, but achievable for someone as bright and determined as him. You just knew Amari would find a way to achieve every single one of them, especially living up to his name and becoming a U.S. President one day. Amari had my vote. Beyond his ambition, his family knew Amari as compassionate, empathetic, and driven to serve others. Amari wanted to spread kindness and joy wherever he went. He went the extra mile to be a beacon of light and knew how to brighten your day by sharing his warmth through a big grin.

His sixteen years have left an indelible imprint on the Lowcountry and his legacy will be found in every heart Amari touched, including mine. I mourn this tragic loss with his family, classmates, and the massive community that was blessed to know Amari and his greatness.

## CONGRATULATING GENERAL BOBBY CHRISTINE

## HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 1, 2020*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate General Bobby Christine from Georgia's First Congressional District for being promoted from Colonel to Brigadier General on July 8. General Christine earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia, and achieved his Juris Doctorate degree from Samford University's Cumberland School of Law in Birmingham.

He worked in the District Attorney's Office in Augusta for a decade, and is one of only a few prosecutors in modern Georgia to win a conviction for a murder case where the body of the victim has never been located.

General Christine was appointed Judge of Magistrate Court for Columbia County in 2005, and held that post until November 2017, while serving as Chief Magistrate from 2009 to 2012. At the same time, he also maintained a private law practice.

On November 22, 2017, General Christine was sworn in as United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, having been nominated by President Trump and confirmed by the Senate.

He has been an Army reservist since the age of 17, as a Combat Engineer and Judge Advocate. General Christine has a long list of military accomplishments, including the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, and the parachutist badge.

I am sure he will continue to serve our country beyond expectations in his new rank, and I am thankful for his courage, leadership, and perseverance. I want to congratulate General Christine and his family again on this achievement.

## REMEMBERING ANNE MARIE SIMON VROSS

## HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 1, 2020*

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Anne Marie Simon Vross, of Youngstown, Ohio, who passed away peacefully Monday, June 29, 2020, surrounded by her family at the age of 87.

Anne was born September 12, 1932, in Youngstown, the daughter of Alex and Tuban Simon. She was a 1951 graduate of Ursuline High School and attended Youngstown State University.

Anne was the beloved matriarch of her family. Always the best hostess, she made her home the common gathering place. Whether it was hosting Sunday dinner, planning her favorite holiday celebrations, or coordinating a reunion, she was always looking for ways to bring the family together, because that's when she was the happiest. She never grew tired of going above and beyond to make sure her family was happy and well provided for.

She was also a true professional career woman, serving in many different roles throughout her life. Despite her busy career, Anne always found time to volunteer.

Anne truly loved politics and the ability to help improve the quality of life for all. She was founder of Canfield Federated Women's Club, where she also served as a former president. She was a former member and corresponding secretary of Mahoning County President's Club and the Federated Democratic Women of Ohio, and she was a former member and executive endorsement committee delegate to the State of Ohio Democratic Convention. She was awarded Democratic Woman of the Year by the John F. Kennedy Democratic Women's Club and was named a Hall of Fame Inductee for her devotion and dedication to the Democratic party.

Anne will be fondly remembered for her love of decorating, cooking, entertaining, and shopping. She loved staying up on fashion so much that she was referred to as "the best-dressed lady in Mahoning County" on many occasions.

Anne was dearly loved and will be deeply missed by her children, Anthony (Christine) Vross, Dianne Wyant, Dr. Sue Ellen (Dr. Eric) Espinal and Jackie (John) French; her grandchildren, Linda Terlesky, Laura Terlesky, Keely (John) Welch, Chelsea (Eric) Hillard, Al-lison (Michael) Thomas, Marian (Phil) Nolletti,